



General Assembly

February Session, 2010

***Raised Bill No. 396***

LCO No. 1943

\* \_\_\_\_SB00396CE\_\_\_\_031910\_\_\_\_\*

Referred to Committee on Commerce

Introduced by:  
(CE)

***AN ACT TRIGGERING CERTAIN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (c) of section 32-70 of the general statutes is  
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
3 *1, 2010*):

4 (c) (1) On or before September 30, 1993, the Commissioner of  
5 Economic and Community Development shall approve the  
6 designation of ten areas as enterprise zones, not more than four of  
7 which shall be in municipalities with a population greater than eighty  
8 thousand and not more than six of which shall be in municipalities  
9 with a population of less than eighty thousand.

10 (2) (A) On or after October 1, 1993, the commissioner shall approve  
11 the designation of two areas as enterprise zones. Each such area shall  
12 be in a municipality with a population of less than eighty thousand, in  
13 which there are one or more base or plant closures. Such municipalities  
14 shall be in different counties. If the commissioner approves the  
15 designation of an area of a municipality as an enterprise zone because

16 of a plant closure in the municipality and there is a closure of another  
17 plant in any other municipality in the state by the same business, the  
18 commissioner shall also designate an area in such other municipality  
19 as an enterprise zone. If any such designated area includes a portion of  
20 a census tract in which any such base or plant is located, the census  
21 tracts in such area shall not be required to meet the eligibility criteria  
22 set forth under subsection (a) of this section for enterprise zone  
23 designation. If any such area is located elsewhere in the municipality,  
24 the census tracts in such area shall meet such eligibility criteria. As  
25 used in this subparagraph, (i) "base" means any United States or state  
26 of Connecticut military base or facility located in whole or in part  
27 within the state; (ii) "plant" means any manufacturing or economic  
28 base business, as defined in subsection (l) of section 32-222; and (iii)  
29 "closure" means any reduction or transfer in military personnel or  
30 civilian employment at one or more bases or plants in a municipality,  
31 which occurred between July 1, 1989, and July 1, 1993, or is scheduled  
32 to occur between July 1, 1993, and July 1, 1996, and exceeds two  
33 thousand persons. Such employment figures shall be certified by the  
34 Labor Department. (B) On or after October 1, 1993, the commissioner  
35 shall approve the designation of three other areas as enterprise zones,  
36 one of which shall be in a municipality with a population greater than  
37 eighty thousand and two of which shall be in municipalities with a  
38 population of less than eighty thousand. The census tracts in such  
39 areas shall meet the eligibility criteria set forth under subsection (a) of  
40 this section for enterprise zone designation. The commissioner shall  
41 approve the designation of enterprise zones under this subparagraph  
42 for those municipalities which he determines to have experienced the  
43 largest increases in poverty from October 1, 1989, to October 1, 1993,  
44 inclusive, based on a weighted average of the unemployment rate,  
45 caseload under the temporary family assistance program and per  
46 capita income of less than ninety per cent of the state average between  
47 1985 and 1989. In making his determination, the commissioner may  
48 also consider the vacancy rates for commercial and industrial facilities  
49 in a municipality and a municipality's program for the implementation  
50 of an effective enterprise zone program. To the extent appropriate, the

51 commissioner shall use the Regional Economic Models, Inc. (REMI)  
 52 system in making the calculations for such determination. (C)  
 53 Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section,  
 54 municipalities that were not distressed municipalities under the  
 55 provisions of subsection (b) of section 32-9p on February 1, 1986, shall  
 56 be eligible to designate areas as enterprise zones under subparagraph  
 57 (A) or (B) of this subdivision.

58 (3) On or after October 1, 2010, the commissioner may approve the  
 59 designation of one area as an enterprise zone. Such area shall be in a  
 60 municipality with a population of less than fifty thousand, in which  
 61 there are one or more plant closures. If any such designated area  
 62 includes a portion of a census tract in which any such plant is located,  
 63 the census tracts in such area shall not be required to meet the  
 64 eligibility criteria set forth under subsection (a) of this section for  
 65 enterprise zone designation. If any such area is located elsewhere in  
 66 the municipality, the census tracts in such area shall meet such  
 67 eligibility criteria. As used in this subdivision, (A) "plant" means any  
 68 manufacturing or economic base business, as defined in subsection (l)  
 69 of section 32-222; and (B) "closure" means any reduction or transfer in  
 70 civilian employment at one or more plants in a municipality, which  
 71 occurs between July 1, 2009, and July 1, 2010, and exceeds eight  
 72 hundred persons. Such employment figures shall be certified by the  
 73 Labor Department.

74 [(3)] (4) The commissioner shall not approve the designation of  
 75 more than one enterprise zone in any municipality. The commissioner  
 76 shall adopt regulations in accordance with chapter 54 concerning such  
 77 additional qualifications for an area to become an enterprise zone as he  
 78 deems necessary. The commissioner may remove the designation of  
 79 any area he has approved as an enterprise zone if such area no longer  
 80 meets the criteria for designation as such an area set forth in this  
 81 section or in regulations adopted pursuant to this section, provided no  
 82 such designation shall be removed less than ten years from the original  
 83 date of approval of such zone. The commissioner may designate any  
 84 additional area as an enterprise zone if that area is designated as an

85 enterprise zone, empowerment zone or enterprise community  
86 pursuant to any federal legislation.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:
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Section 1	<i>July 1, 2010</i>	32-70(c)
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***CE***      *Joint Favorable*